

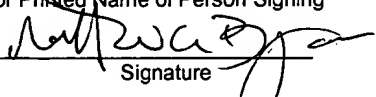
Appl. No. 09/167,088
Amdt. dated Thursday, May 13, 2004
Reply to Office Action of November 14, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action, dated November 14, 2003, has been carefully considered. Claims 1, 4-23 and 25-42 are pending and under examination. Claims 34-42 have now been cancelled in order to expedite the issuance of the pending method claims. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims, along with all described but not claimed patentable subject matter in a subsequent divisional application. It is believed that no additional fee is required as the number of independent and dependent claims is the same as originally filed. Applicants appreciate Examiner's withdrawal of the previous claim rejections for claims 1, 4-23 and 25-33.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as currently presented before the Examiner are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are requested and allowance of claims 1, 4-23 and 25-33 is earnestly solicited.

A check in the amount of \$475.00 is enclosed as payment for a three-month extension in responding to the Office Action. The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Frost Brown Todd LLC Deposit Account No. 06-2226.

"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number: EV316084474US
Date of Deposit: ____
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited in the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
Matthew G. Burgan Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing
 Signature

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Respectfully submitted,

Fred D. Finkelman and Suzanne C. Morris



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